United States Department of Agriculture
Forest Service
Stanislaus National Forest
19777 Greenley Road
Sonora, CA 95370-5909

38.0715 -120.1811

Reply To: 3420

Date: August 18, 1993

Subject: Evaluation of felled ponderosa pines in right-of-way near Sierra Village (Report C93-13)

To: Austin Stedman
State of California, Department of Transportation
District 10
P.O. Box 2048
Stockton, CA 95201

On August 13, 1993, Forest Pest Management was contacted by Austin Steadman, Department of Transportation, to examine 6 trees which had been felled last week on Cal-Trans right-of-way property. Austin Steadman, Jim Schram, private logger, Jerry Morrow, homeowner and myself met off of Ridge Trail Court near Sierra Village on August 16 to examine the trees. The objective of the field evaluation was to determine if the trees had been successfully attacked by the western pine beetle, Dendroctonus brevicomis, prior to felling.

The trees had been cut to either 16 or 32 foot lengths and then skidded and piled into a log deck which made it difficult to determine which logs came from which trees. The log deck was composed of 17 logs which were examined individually for bark beetle pitch tubes, gallery formation and brood production. One tree (4 logs) in the deck had been cut last year after being successfully attacked by western pine beetle. Of the remaining 13 logs which were cut last week, 9 had no signs of bark beetle attack and 4 had numerous white pitch tubes. Dead adult beetles which had been pitched-out by the tree's resin flow were found in many of the white pitch tubes. White pitch tubes usually indicate that the attacks were not successful and the tree will survive. To confirm that these attacks were unsuccessful the bark was removed directly behind the white pitch tubes and the cambium was examined for adult beetles and gallery formation. There were no beetles or galleries found under the bark associated with the pitch tubes or under additional patches of bark which were removed randomly along the logs to determine if western pine beetles were present.

If you have any questions regarding this report please contact Sheri Smith at the Stanislaus National Forest Supervisor's Office. The phone number is (209) 532-3671 ext. 254.

Sheri Smith
Entomologist
South Sierra Shared Service Area

cc: Dan Ward, CDF
cc: John Wenz, Stanislaus SO